

REMARKS

This amendment provides a complete claim 24 in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated April 4, 2005. In addition, the remarks in the amendment filed February 8, 2005 are amplified.

By the above amendment, new independent claim 24 is added. New claim 24 is similar to claim 1 except that the downcomer generally contains at least one packing between its upper portion and its lower portion. See, e.g., page 4, line 25 - page 5, line 29, especially page 4, lines 25 and 26. Thus, the packing is not restricted to the geometry of the prior claims at issue.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



I. William Millen, Reg. No. 19,544
Attorney for Applicants

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO
& BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1
2200 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 1400
Arlington, VA 22201
Direct Dial: 703-812-5331
Facsimile: 703-243-6410

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